

Floyd Petersen, Mayor Karen Hansberger, Mayor pro tempore Robert Christman, Councilmember Stan Brauer, Councilmember Robert Ziprick, Councilmember

COUNCIL AGENDA:

February 24, 2004

TO:

City Council

SUBJECT:

Council Bill #R-2004-9 - Opposing Proposition 56 which would

eliminate the two-thirds legislative vote requirement to pass the

state budget and tax increase measures

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council adopt Council Bill #R-2004-9.

RESOLUTION NO.

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOMA LINDA, OPPOSING PROPOSITION 56 ON THE MARCH 2, 2004 BALLOT

WHEREAS, the voters of California put the two-thirds legislative vote requirement in the State Constitution with Proposition 13 to curb runaway taxes; and

WHEREAS, hidden in Proposition 56's "budget reform" language is Section 12(f)(1) of Proposition 56, which has the furthest reaching consequences in that it eliminates the two-thirds legislative vote requirement currently needed before taxes can be raised and reduces the required legislative vote to 55 percent the number of votes required to pass the budget bill as well as other bills relating to tax increase measures; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 56 makes it easier for the legislature to increase our income tax, property tax, car tax, and other state taxes, year after year, and would remove the taxpayer protections of Proposition 13 from the State Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the California Taxpayers' Association believes the two-thirds legislative vote requirement is one of the most important protections taxpayers have against unjustified tax hikes; and

WHEREAS, Californians pay \$130 billion in state and local taxes every year; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 56 would make it easier for the Legislature to pass unlimited tax increases and would institutionalize over-spending and mismanagement; and

WHEREAS, jobs and the income tax revenues they produce are the state's number one resource for funding the budget; and

WHEREAS, increasing taxes on individuals and businesses will further devastate California's economic recovery; force more families onto the unemployment line; require more cuts in education, health care, law enforcement as well as other budget cuts; drive more companies out of business and out of state

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Loma Linda does hereby oppose Proposition 56 on the March 2, 2004 ballot, and urges all voters to oppose Proposition 56 as well; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the authors and coauthors of Proposition 56 (AB1690), the Speaker of the Assembly, the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors and the League of California Cities.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 24th day of February 2004 by the following vote:

Ayes: Noes: Absent: Abstain:		
ATTEST:	Floyd Petersen, Mayor	
Pamela Byrnes-O'Camb, City Clerk		